

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

**Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 & 30 May 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000956

**OUTCOME:** 6 - Ageing and Aged Care

**Topic:** National Dementia Framework funding

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Polley, Helen

**Question:**

Can you confirm whether funding is attached to the initiatives under the National Dementia Framework, and if so, can you detail all funding linked to each of the seven priorities?

**Answer:**

There is Australian Government funding allocated to programs, projects and initiatives under all seven priority areas of the National Framework for Action on Dementia.

The Department of Health funds a range of dementia-specific programs through the Dementia and Aged Care Services Fund and Chronic Disease Prevention and Service Improvement Fund. These include programs that support people living with dementia, their families and carers, and the dementia care workforce, or that support the community to be more dementia-friendly. There is also funding for dementia-specific carer support programs in the Social Services portfolio.

In addition to dementia-specific programs, people living with dementia and their carers are supported through broad health and aged care system mechanisms. These include:

- Primary Health Networks;
- healthdirect contact centre;
- the National Health Services Directory;
- the Medicare Benefits Schedule;
- the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme;
- My Health Record;
- Acute care services;
- the Commonwealth Home Support Program;
- Home Care (including the dementia and cognition supplement);
- the Transition Care Program;
- the Short-term Restorative Care Program;
- the Residential Aged Care Subsidy;
- the Multi-Purpose Services Program;

- the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program;
- the Community Visitors Scheme;
- the National Aged Care Advocacy Program; and
- a range of National Palliative Care Projects.

Carers of people living with dementia may also access support through the carer gateway, the National Carer Counselling Program, the Carer Information Support Service and the carer payment.

Funding cannot be broken down in each of the seven priority areas as many of the supports available within these priority areas sit within the broader health, aged care and social services systems. Data is not available regarding access to health, aged care and social services by people with dementia.

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) provide funding for dementia-specific research through the NHMRC National Institute for Dementia Research and the NHMRC Medical Research Endowment Fund.